AUTODOC CLUB

How to change front suspension strut on **VW Passat B5 Variant** – replacement guide

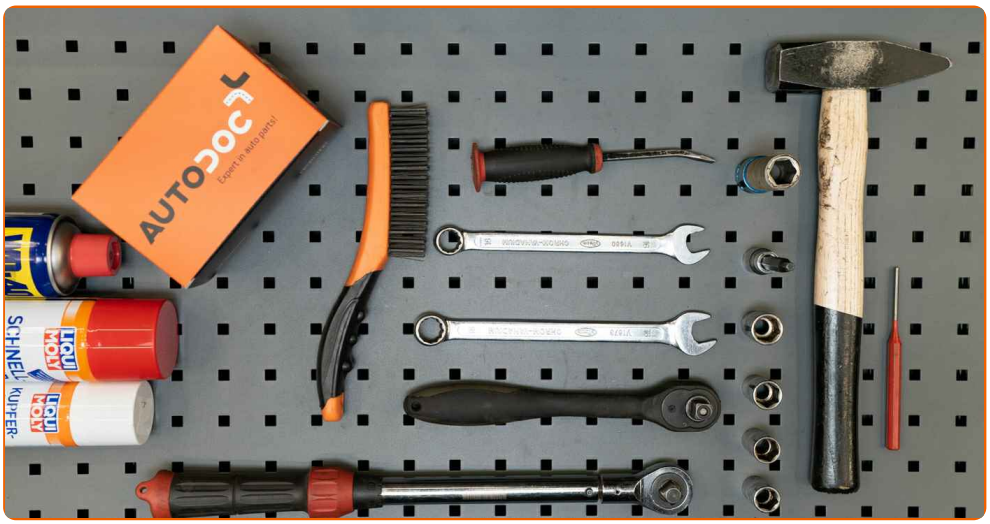
VIDEO TUTORIAL

Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
VW Passat B5 Saloon (3B2) 1.6, VW Passat B5 Saloon (3B2) 1.8, VW Passat B5 Saloon (3B2) 1.8 T, VW Passat B5 Saloon (3B2) 2.3 VR5, VW Passat B5 Saloon (3B2) 1.9 TDI, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 1.6, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 1.8, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 1.8 T, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 2.3 VR5, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 2.8 V6, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 1.9 TDI, VW Passat B5 Estate (3B5) 2.5 TDI, VW Passat B5 GP Saloon (3BG, 3B3) 1.6, VW Passat B5 GP Saloon (3BG, 3B3) 1.9 TDI, VW Passat B5 GP Estate (3BG, 3B6) 1.9 TDI, (+ 19)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – VW PASSAT B5 VARIANT. TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Combination spanner #16
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 15
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 18
- HEX bit no.H6.
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Pin punch
- Hammer
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS

Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – VW PASSAT B5 VARIANT. TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

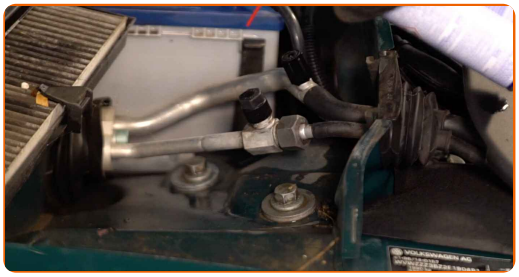
1 Open the hood.

2 Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.

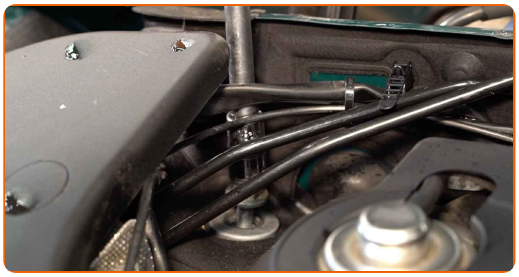
3 Remove the cowl grille seal.

4 Raise up and remove the cowl grille.

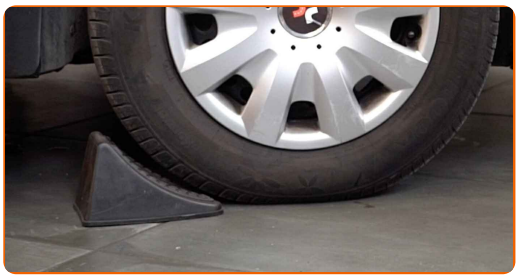
5 Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



6 Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



7 Secure the wheels with chocks.



8 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

9 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.

10 Unscrew the wheel bolts.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. VW Passat B5 Variant

11 Remove the wheel.

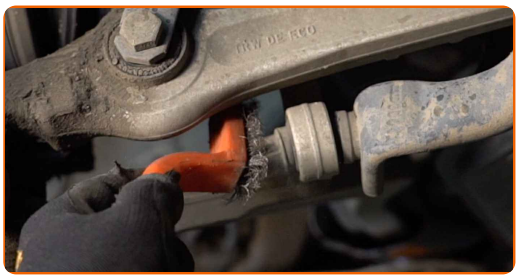
12 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

13 Unscrew the upper control arm fasteners (2 pieces). Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16.

14 Remove the fastening bolt. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer.

15 Detach the upper control arm from the steering knuckle (2 pieces). Use a crowbar.

16 Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

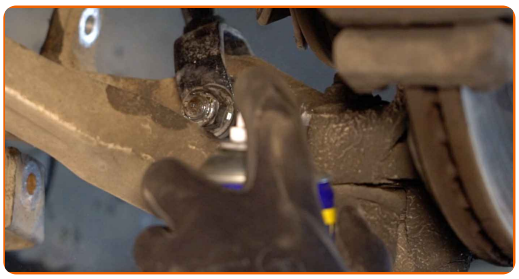


17 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the stabilizer bar. Use a combination spanner #16 (2 pieces).

18 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer bar with the control arm. Use a combination spanner #16 (2 pieces).

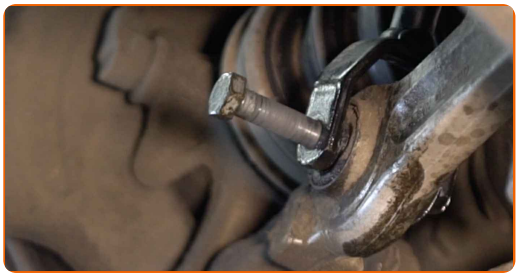
19 Remove the stabilizer rod.

20 Clean the shock strut fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



21 Unscrew the lower fastener of the shock absorber strut. Use a drive socket #18. Use a combination spanner #18.

22 Remove the fastening bolt.



23 Detach the bottom part of the shock strut. Use a crowbar.

24 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount.

Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. Tip from AUTODOC:

- To avoid injuries, hold the shock strut when undoing the fastening bolts.

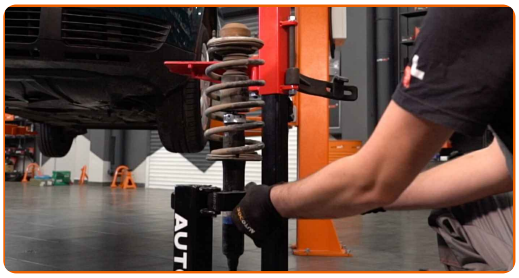
25 Remove the suspension strut.

26 Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

27 Loosen the upper fastener of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #13.

28 Remove the upper shock absorber mount assembled with the control arms.

29 Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.



Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

30 Compress the spring.

31 Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

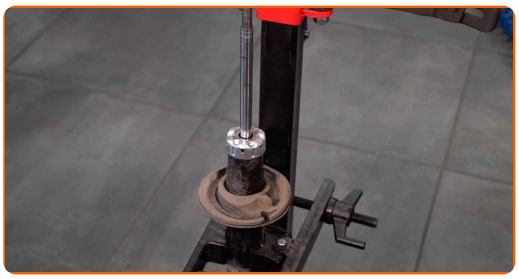
32 Remove the strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.

33 Remove the top strut mount. Use a crowbar.

34 Release the coil spring.

35 Remove the spring.

36 Remove the shock absorber dust cap and the bump stop.



AUTODOC recommends:

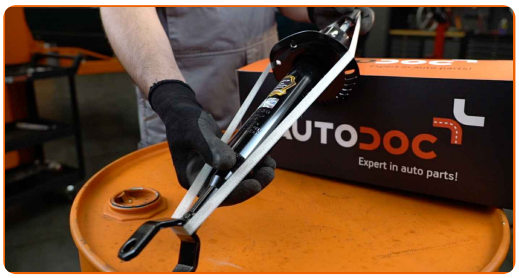
- Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

37 Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. Professionals recommend:

- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.

38 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

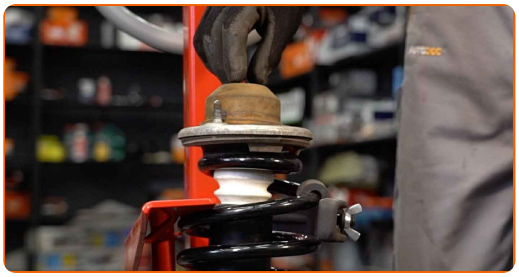


39 Install the spring on the shock absorber.

40 Compress the spring.

41 Install the dust sleeve and the bump stop on the new shock absorber.

42 Install the upper strut mount and the strut mount bearing.



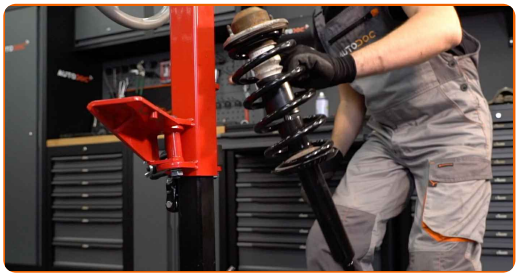
43 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 nm torque.

Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. AUTODOC recommends:

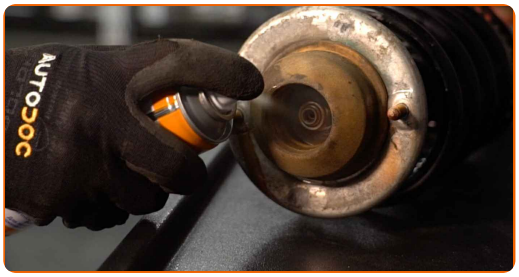
- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

44 Decompress the spring.

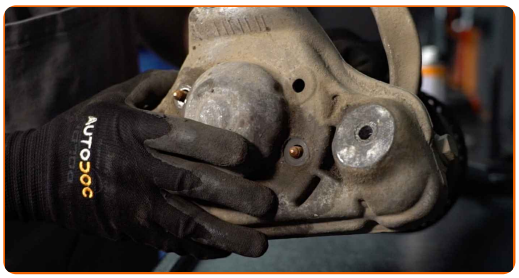
45 Remove the assembled shock strut.



46 Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.

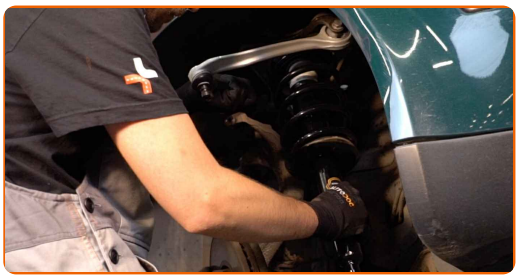


47 Install the upper shock absorber mount assembled with the control arms.



48 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 22 nm torque.

49 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.

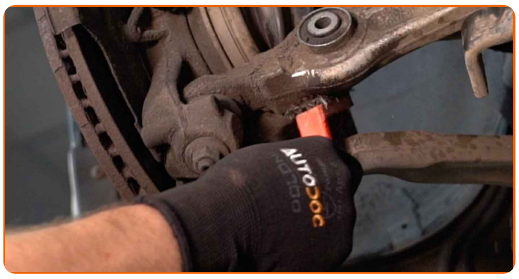


50 Screw the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #15. Use a ratchet wrench. Do not tighten it.

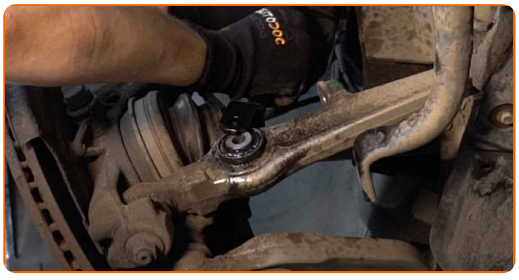
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts. VW Passat B5 Variant

51 Clean the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



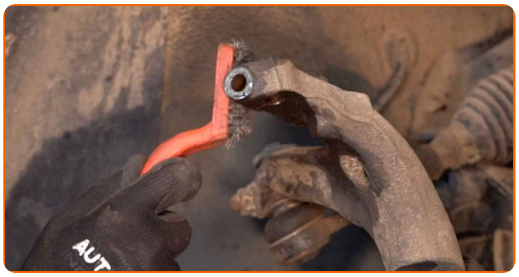
52 Attach the suspension control arm to the shock strut.



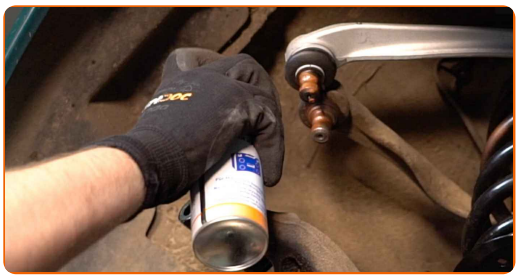
53 Install the fastening bolt.

54 Screw in the lower fastener of the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18.

55 Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



56 Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.



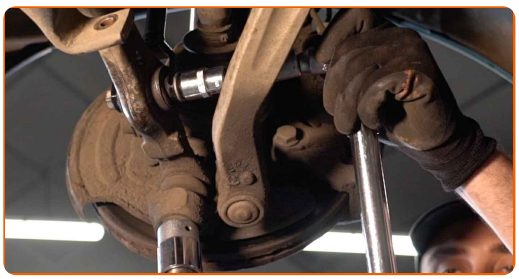
57 Attach the upper control arm to the steering knuckle (2 pieces).

58 Install the fastening bolt.

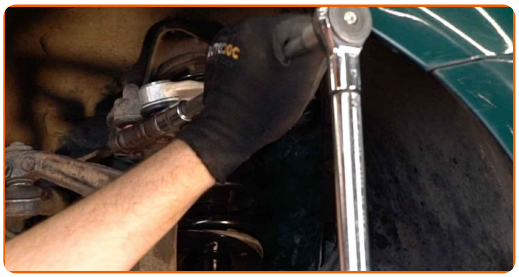
59 Screw in the fasteners (2 pieces) of the upper control arm. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16.

60 Support the arm. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

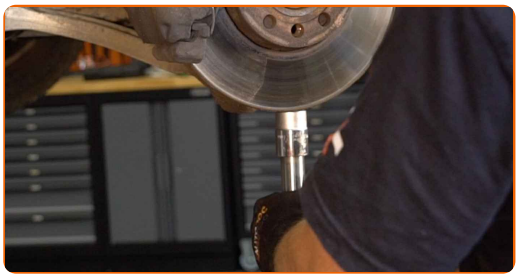
61 Tighten the lower fastening of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 90 Nm torque.



62 Tighten the upper control arm fasteners (2 pieces). Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.



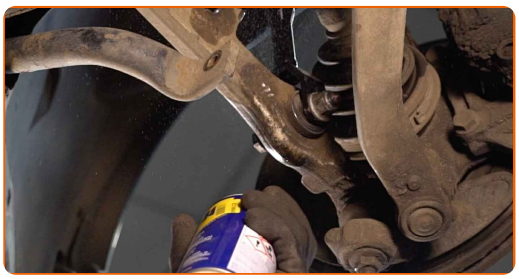
63 Remove the support from under the arm.



Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. Tip:

- Lower the hydraulic transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging assemblies and mechanisms.

64 Clean the mounting seats of the stabiliser link. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



65 Install the transverse stabilizer link.

66 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer bar with the control arm. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.+90°

Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. AUTODOC experts recommend:

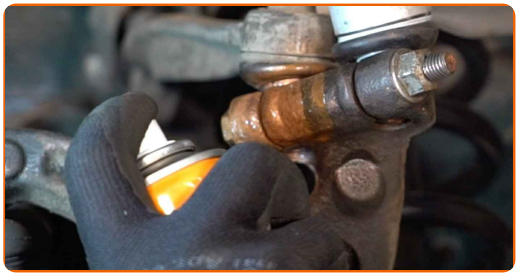
- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

67 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the stabilizer bar. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.+90°

AUTODOC recommends:

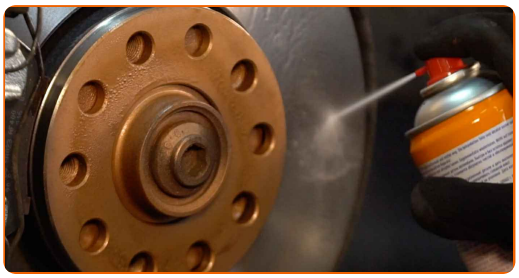
- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

68 Treat all joints of the arm. Treat the shock strut fasteners. Use copper grease.



69 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.

70 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

71 Install the wheel.

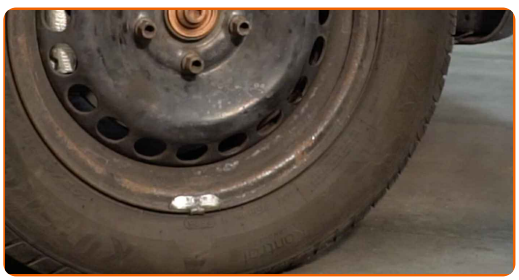
Replacement: suspension strut – VW Passat B5 Variant. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

72 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

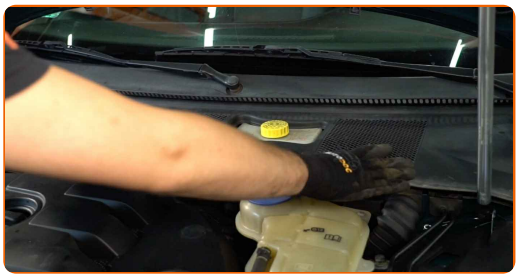
73 Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 nm torque.

74 Remove the jacks and chocks.

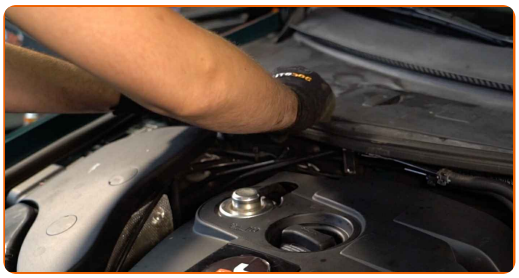


75 Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 65 nm torque.

76 Install and secure the cowl grille.

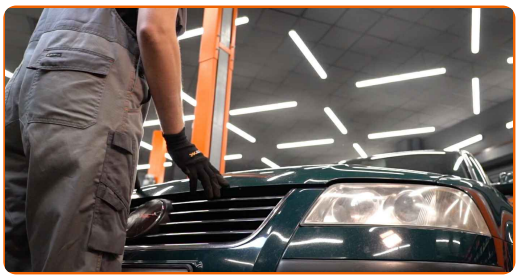


77 Install the cowl grille seal.



78 Remove the fender protection cover.

79 Close the hood.



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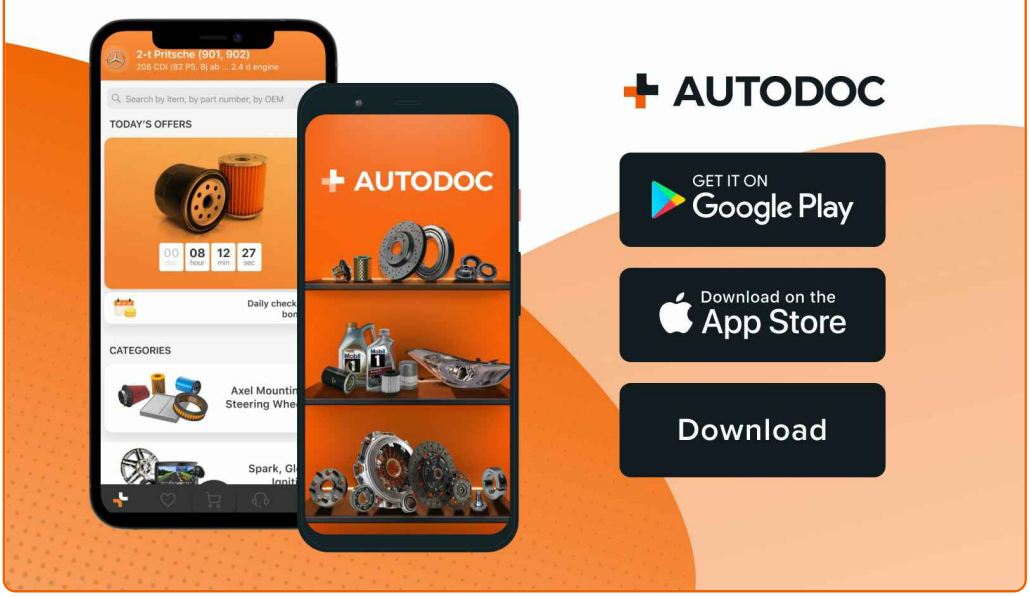

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